

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition for pipe coating, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the composition comprises a  $\beta$ -nucleated propylene polymer comprising 0.0001-2.0 weight% of a  $\beta$ -nucleating agent and microspheres, said composition having a melt flow rate (MFR<sub>2</sub>; ISO 1133, condition D) at 230°C/2.16kg in the range of 0.05-30 g/10 min and in that the composition has an elongation at break of at least 3%.
2. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said composition has a melt flow rate (MFR<sub>2</sub>; ISO 1133, condition D) at 230°C/2.16kg in the range of 0.5-10 g/10 min and preferably in the range of 1.0-5 g/10 min.
3. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said composition has an elongation at break of >5% and preferably >10%.
4. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the  $\beta$ -nucleated propylene polymer is a (co)polymer which comprises at least 90.0 weight% of propylene and up to 10.0 weight% of  $\alpha$ -olefins with 2 or 4 to 18 carbon atoms, and that the propylene polymer has a melt flow rate of 0.1-8 g/10 min at 230°C/2.16 kg.
5. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the composition further comprises a polyolefin homopolymer having a melt flow rate of 100-1500 g/10 min at 230°C/2.16 kg.

6. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the amount of polyolefin is 0-20 weight%, preferably 15-20 weight%.
7. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the tensile modulus of the composition is at least 1500 MPa determined according to ISO 527.
8. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the compression strength at 20 MPa/80° determined according to ASTM D695, is > 10 MPa, preferably >15 MPa.
9. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the K-value of the composition is less than 0.190 W/m°K.
10. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the density of the composition is 500-850 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.
11. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said microspheres are made of glass, ceramics, epoxy resin, phenolic resin or urea-formaldehyde resin.
12. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said microspheres are untreated microspheres.
13. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said microspheres have an outer diameter of 1-500 µm, preferably 5-200 µm.

14. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said microspheres are hollow.

15. (Currently Amended) A syntactic polyolefin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said microspheres are present in an amount of 10-50 weight%, preferably 20-30 weight% of the composition.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of a syntactic polyolefin composition for pipe coating according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein microspheres are evenly distributed by melt mixing in a composition comprising a  $\beta$ -nucleated propylene polymer and microspheres, said composition having a melt flow rate at 230°C/2.16kg in the range 0.05-30 g/10min and in that the composition has an elongation at break of at least 3%.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said microspheres are added to the molten polymer.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the composition is compounded/homogenised and extruded as a coating on an off-shore pipe in one continuous step.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein, the composition is pelletized in a first step and in a subsequent step extruded as a coating on an off-shore pipe.

20. (Currently Amended) An off-shore pipe coated with a syntactic polyolefin composition, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the pipe is coated with a composition according to ~~any one of claims 1-15~~ claim 1.